Export of Basmati rice

†2451. SHRI SURENDRA LATH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the year-wise quantity of Basmati rice exported by India during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that export of Basmati rice has declined, as compared to previous few years;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have introduced any incentive scheme to promote the export of Basmati rice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The quantity of Basmati rice exported during the last three years is as under:

Year	Quantity in lakh MTs
2003-04	7.71
2004-05	11.63
2005-06	11.67

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, (DGCI&S) Kolkata

The above data indicates a rise in export of Basmati rice export.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

Domination of SEZs by IT sector

2452. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that SEZs are being dominated by the IT sector and if so, the percentage of approvals granted to manufacturing sector, till date;

(b) what modalities are being planned in the SEZ scheme so that the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

farmers, whose land is acquired are made active participants in the industrial growth under SEZs;

(c) whether Government would consider to amend SEZ Act, to make farmers' participation mandatory in the SEZ scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) The minimum land area requirment for sector specific Special Economic Zone (SEZ) for Electronic Hardware and Information Technology including Information Technology Enabled Services is 10 Hectares and as such of the 234 formal approvals for SEZ, where land possession is a mandatory requirement, 147 approvals were for this sector while 5 approvals were given for the Services sector and 92 approvals have been given for the manufacturing sector (39.32%). However, of the 162 in-principle approvals, 121 approvals are for the manufacturing sector (74.69%).

(b) to (d) The Ministry of Rural Development is currently formulating a revised National Rehabilitation Policy 2007 with the objective to minimize displacement and to promote, as far as possible, non-displacing or least displacing alternatives, ensure adequate rehabilitation packages and expeditious implementation of the rehabilitation process with the active participation of the displaced persons. As and when the new policy is implemented, it will apply to acquisition of land for industrial projects including SEZs.

Production and export of leather from Tamil Nadu

2453. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the value of leather produced and exported from Tamil Nadu during each of the last three years;

(b) the percentage of the State's production and export in the country's total production and export;

(c) the amount allocated for 2007-08 for further development of leather industry in the State;